



News for Immediate Release  
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**DWR ANNOUNCES INITIAL 2004 WATER ALLOCATION**

SACRAMENTO -- The Department of Water Resources today announced the initial allocation for water delivery to the State Water Project Contractors.

The initial allocation is 35 percent of their requested amounts, and will likely increase during the winter months. This initial allocation is nearly double the initial allocation of the previous two years. In 2002 and 2003, the initial allocations were 20 percent.

The 35 percent initial allocation amounts to 1,445,084 acre-feet, distributed among the 29 long-term SWP Contractors who serve more than 20 million Californians and nearly a million acres of irrigated farmland.

In addition to this initial allocation, many SWP Contractors will be carrying over water from their 2003 allocation. SWP Contractors benefited from a final 2003 allocation of 90 percent of requested amounts, of which they are carrying over in excess of 400,000 acre-feet.

In making this allocation, the Department considered a conservative projection of hydrology, State Water Project operational constraints, and 2004 contractor requests. SWP contractors' Table A water for 2004 totals 4.13 million acre-feet, of which all was requested. Table A water is the maximum contractual amount that SWP Contractors can request each year. The Department will revise the allocation as the year's hydrologic and water supply conditions develop.

A Notice to SWP Contractors appears on the DWR's State Water Project Analysis Office Web site at <http://www.swpao.water.ca.gov/notices.html>.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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